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By: Renee D. EastSigned: *Renee D. East*Date of signature and deposit/transmission: March 17, 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| In re Application of: Hong Jiang et al. |) | Group Art Unit: 3663 |
| |) | |
| Serial No.: 10/774,805 |) | Confirmation No.: 9249 |
| |) | |
| Filed: February 9, 2004 |) | Examiner: Pipala, Edward J. |
| |) | |
| For: Method and System for Controlling a |) | Atty. Docket: 81075405(16350) |
| Transfer Case Clutch to Protect Against |) | |
| Excessive Heat |) | |

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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RESPONSE

Honorable Sir:

In response to the requirement to elect an invention for examination as set forth in the Office action dated March 9, 2006, invention I, Claims 1-9 and 17-19, are elected to be examined.

The Office Action states that Claims 1-9 and 17-19 are drawn to an system and method of controlling a clutch, and that Claims 10-16 are drawn to a method of digitally controlling a clutch.

Submitted concurrently with this response is a Preliminary Amendment containing Claims 20-32, drawn to a method of controlling a clutch consistent with invention I, the elected invention.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attorney for Applicant(s)

Dated: March 17, 2006
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(Serial No. 10/774,805)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

In response to the Office action dated March 9, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.